

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (Currently Amended) A method for installation of ~~[[an]]~~ a non-bendable elongate ~~process vessel~~ unit on the seabed, in which said ~~process vessel~~ unit has a first ~~process vessel~~ unit end and a second ~~process vessel~~ unit end, characterized in that said method comprises the following steps:

- a) preparing and moving said ~~process vessel~~ unit to a position in which it is ready for being launched from a vessel and lowered through the sea with its longitudinal axis in a generally vertical orientation;
- b) launching said ~~process vessel~~ unit from said vessel;
- c) lowering said ~~process vessel~~ unit through the sea surface, the splash zone and further down to a deployment site at the seabed;
- d) after said ~~process vessel~~ unit lowering step c), entering said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end into a receptor device for said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end, so as to temporarily form a lower end of said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end, the receptor device being located on the seabed or on a module foundation for said ~~process vessel~~ unit at the seabed;
- e) completing said ~~process vessel~~ unit entry in said receptor device and retaining said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end in place in said receptor device; ~~[[and]]~~
- f) lowering said second ~~process vessel~~ unit end so as to bring the ~~process vessel~~ unit as a whole from the generally vertical orientation to a generally horizontal orientation on the seabed or on said module foundation for said ~~process vessel~~ unit, said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end remaining supported by said receptor device, so as to form a fulcrum for said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end, thus facilitating lowering of said second ~~process vessel~~ unit end~~[[,]]~~; and
- g) deploying said ~~process vessel~~ unit at the deployment site.

2. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that said ~~process vessel~~ unit entry step d) further comprises the step of :

guiding said ~~process~~ vessel unit to said receptor device before entering said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end of said ~~process~~ vessel unit into said receptor device.

3. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that said preparation and moving step a) and said launching step b) further include the following steps:

moving and guiding said ~~process~~ vessel unit towards the stern end of said vessel, said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end facing said stern end of said vessel;  
launching said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end over a stern roller located at said stern end of said vessel.

4. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 3, characterized in that said ~~process~~ vessel unit moving and guiding step is accomplished by conveying said ~~process~~ vessel unit to said stern end of said vessel by means of a vessel crane or vessel winch, ~~preferably~~ having a heave compensator, the vessel crane or vessel winch controlling a vessel wire system which is attached to said ~~process~~ vessel unit, so as to safely retain and guide said ~~process~~ vessel unit.

5. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that a receptor device is arranged on said vessel, and that said preparation and moving step a) and said launching step b) further include the following steps:

entering said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end into said receptor device for said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end so that said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end engages said receptor device, so as to temporarily form a lower end of said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end;  
completing said ~~process~~ vessel unit entry in said receptor device and retaining said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end in place in said receptor device, so as to form a fulcrum for said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end;  
lifting said second ~~process~~ vessel unit end while said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end remains supported by said receptor device, thus facilitating lifting of said second ~~process~~ vessel

unit end so as to bring the longitudinal axis of said ~~process~~ vessel unit to a generally vertical orientation;  
moving said ~~process~~ vessel unit in said generally vertical orientation to a position in which it is ready to be launched into the sea; and  
launching said ~~process~~ vessel unit with its longitudinal axis in a generally vertical orientation into the sea.

6. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that said preparing and moving step a) further comprises the step of:

transferring said ~~process~~ vessel unit from a transport frame to a vessel deck on said vessel.

7. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that a framework including one or more process unit mating pins  $\rightarrow$  is attached to said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end of said ~~process~~ vessel unit, so that said ~~process~~ vessel unit entry step d) further includes the following step:

guiding said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end into engagement with said receptor device by means of said one or more ~~process~~ vessel unit mating pins being brought into engagement with said receptor device.

8. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that said ~~process~~ vessel unit includes at least two launch beams for facilitating generally horizontal movement of said ~~process~~ vessel unit and for providing support for said ~~process~~ vessel unit on the seabed, on said module foundation, on a process subsea skid, [[said]] a vessel deck, or on [[said]] a transport frame on said vessel deck.

9. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that said completing and retaining step e) further includes the following step:

locking and retaining said first ~~process~~ vessel unit end of said ~~process~~ vessel unit in place in said receptor device by means of a lock pin, so as to retain said one or more ~~process~~

vessel unit mating pins included in ~~said frame-work~~ a framework attached said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end of said ~~process vessel~~ unit in said receptor device; said lock pin ~~preferably~~ being spring loaded and ROV releasable.

10. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that

said method further comprises the step of:

keeping control of said second ~~process vessel~~ unit end of said ~~process vessel~~ unit by means of ~~[[said]]~~ a vessel wire system including a lowering wire from ~~[[said]]~~ a vessel crane or vessel winch on said vessel;

said ~~process vessel~~ unit lowering step c) further includes the step of

positioning said vessel generally above said receptor device in the sea and lowering said ~~process vessel~~ unit in the sea with its longitudinal axis in a generally vertical orientation down to said receptor device;

said ~~process vessel~~ unit end lowering step f) further includes the step of

positioning said vessel so that the weight of said ~~process vessel~~ unit is gradually transferred to said lowering wire, so as to start lowering of said second ~~process vessel~~ unit end towards the seabed or said module foundation about said fulcrum formed by said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end engaging said receptor device, moving said vessel to a position so that an axial force component of the tension generated by said ~~process vessel~~ unit in said lowering wire is directed towards said receptor device; so that said axial force component is generally parallel with the longitudinal, central axis of said ~~process vessel~~ unit; and so that transversal force components of said force in said lowering wire from said second ~~process vessel~~ unit end of said ~~process vessel~~ unit to said vessel are reduced or minimized;

thus retaining said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end in engagement with said receptor device, and reducing or minimizing the risk of disengagement of said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end from said receptor device.

11. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~said process a vessel~~ subsea skid, or ~~[[said]] a transport frame or similar~~, includes a guide and a cradle arranged for supporting the load of said ~~process vessel~~ unit to said module foundation or ~~[[said]] a transport frame~~; one or more, ~~preferably two~~ pairs of wedges being adjustable in order to align said ~~process vessel~~ unit on ~~said process a vessel~~ subsea skid or said transport frame, so as to bring the longitudinal axis of said ~~process vessel~~ unit to the generally same level as said receptor device engaging said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end of said ~~process vessel~~ unit, thus relieving the load of said ~~process vessel~~ unit from said receptor device to the module foundation; and that said ~~process vessel~~ unit ~~[[4]]~~ includes a ~~process vessel~~ unit saddle arranged for transferring the load of said ~~process vessel~~ unit to said guide and cradle.

12. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~[[said]] a wire system on said vessel~~ includes one or more launch wires, extending from said vessel winch or a separate winch via a snatch block for each launch wire to an attachment location on said vessel; said snatch block being located at the stern end of said vessel; a launch control-wire with bridle connected to a separate winch; a lowering wire connected to a separate winch and to said second ~~process vessel~~ unit end of said ~~process vessel~~ unit.

13. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that after the deployment step g), it further comprises the step of :

h) loosening or removing said receptor device from said first ~~process vessel~~ unit end.

14. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that said elongate ~~process vessel~~ unit is a horizontal gravitational separator.

15. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in before said preparation and moving step a) and said launching step b):

placing a receptor device, including a transport frame, with the process vessel unit in engagement with said receptor device on the flatbed of a lorry, truck, railway carriage or other wheel carriage,

transporting said receptor device with said process vessel unit to said vessel, and  
lifting said receptor device with said process vessel unit onto said vessel.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of retrieving an elongate process non-bendable vessel unit from the seabed, in which said process unit has a first process vessel unit end and a second process vessel unit end, characterized in that said method comprises the following steps:

- a) preparing said process vessel unit for removal from a deployment site;
- b) lifting said second process vessel unit end from the seabed or from a module foundation for said process vessel unit, said first process vessel unit end being retained in a receptor device, thus temporarily forming a lower end of said first process vessel unit end, and so as to bring the longitudinal axis of said process vessel unit as a whole from the generally horizontal orientation to a generally vertical orientation; said first process vessel unit end of said process vessel unit and said receptor device forming a fulcrum for said first process vessel unit end, thus facilitating lifting of said second process vessel unit end;
- c) disengaging said first process vessel unit end from said receptor device;
- d) hauling said process vessel unit from said deployment site at the seabed, up through the sea, the splash zone and the sea surface to a vessel;
- e) bringing said process vessel unit aboard said vessel, and
- g) preparing and moving said process vessel unit to a generally horizontal position onboard said vessel, in which it is sea-fastened and ready for being transported on said vessel.

17 - 26. (Cancelled).

27. (New) A method for installation of an elongate non-bendable vessel unit in which said vessel unit has a first vessel unit end and a second vessel unit end, characterized in that said method comprises the following steps:

- a) directing said first vessel unit end to enter a receptor device having a framework having one or more mating pins, including a locking pin, and two or more receptor bearing points on the framework, the framework being capable of receiving said first vessel unit end when said receptor device is disposed on a deployment site on a seabed, said framework being spaced apart from said seabed;
- b) retaining said first vessel unit end in said mating pins;
- c) locking said mating pins with said locking pin;
- d) transferring the weight of said vessel unit to a lowering wire connected to said second vessel unit end and spaced apart from the first vessel unit end, said lowering wire having a first transversal force component of tension;
- e) lowering said vessel unit towards said seabed, pivotally about a fulcrum formed by at least one bearing point, wherein an axial force component of tension, when generated by said vessel unit is directed towards said receptor device and a second transversal force component of tension, when generated by said vessel unit, is less than said first transversal force component of tension;
- f) disposing said vessel unit on said seabed; and
- g) releasing said lowering line from said second vessel unit end to complete installing said vessel unit on said seabed.

28. (New) Said method of claim 27, wherein said retaining step b) further comprises the steps of:

- h) receiving said first vessel unit end with a receptor cylinder having a receptor dampening member disposed within said receptor cylinder;
- i) transferring said weight of said vessel unit from said lowering wire to said receptor; and
- j) dampening the impact force of said weight on said receptor.

29. (New) Said method of claim 28, wherein said dampening step j) includes dampening provided by a dampening device selected from the group consisting of an elastomeric material, a piston and a spring.

30. (New) Said method of claim 27, wherein said fulcrum comprises a plurality of receptor bearing points each including a receptor rotating pin.

31. (New) Said method of claim 27, wherein retaining step b) further comprises the step of

h) rotating said vessel unit in a rotational guide included on said receptor cylinder, said rotational guide cooperating with a shoulder disposed on said mating pins.

32. (New) Said method of claim 31, wherein rotating step h) includes aligning at least one pair of alignment devices disposed on a module foundation connected to said receptor device when facilitating locking said first vessel unit end to said receptor device.